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CONVENTION SHOWS FARMERS' UNION VITAL FORCE

DELEGATES MEET IN CRITICAL DAYS FOR AGRICULTURE

**First Convention of Farmers'
Union of Alberta Is
Largely Attended**

GREAT TASKS AHEAD

**Sense of Pressing Need for
Stability in Agriculture
Characterizes Convention**

Acutely conscious of current indications that critical days lie ahead for agriculture in Western Canada, delegates to the First Annual Convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta, in Calgary last week, set themselves with earnestness and energy to the consideration of policies designed to break the impact upon their industry of changing economic conditions.

Quality of Vitality

Perhaps it was this sense of the need to be prepared for action, this consciousness of the role which organized agriculture must be prepared to play in both Provincial and national and in international fields if stability is to be established and maintained, that gave to this Convention a special quality of vitality.

The somewhat wearisome job of dealing with amendments to the constitution — an inescapable necessity for a new organization — slowed up proceedings during the earlier days of the Convention. The few items which gave rise to differences of opinion upon matters of principle were thoroughly debated, and when conclusions were reached majorities were decisively large. No amendments that were considered to be in conflict with the principles upon which amalgamation had been based were adopted. For the most part, however, this was a routine "tidying up" operation, making for greater clarity.

Large Delegation

That the united movement has great vigor, even though a big job of organization must be undertaken to bring

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Name Directors To A. F. A.

At the first meeting of the Provincial Board of the Farmers' Union of Alberta following the Annual Convention, Secretary R. J. Boutilier announced that the following were appointed Directors to the Alberta Federation of Agriculture: J. L. McIntosh, Dimsdale; George Tindell, Fabyn; A. R. Hadland, Baldonnel (Peace River Block, B.C.); C. J. Stimpfle, Egremont; Mrs. M. E. Lowe, R.R. 2, St. Albert; Mrs. R. B. Gunn, Lloydminster. Delegates to the Annual Meeting of the A.F.A. were appointed as follows: C. T. Armstrong, Hussar; Mrs. R. B. Gunn, and Messrs. McIntosh and Tindell.

New Executive of Farmers' Union of Alberta Elected



At the inaugural Convention of the Farmers Union of Alberta in January last, when the U.F.A. and A.F.U. came together to form the new organization, a Provisional Executive of four members was elected to hold office until the First Annual Convention. Under the terms of the Constitution, it was provided that the future Executive should consist of six members. Elected at the first Annual Convention of the Union in Calgary last

week were the members of the new Executive, who are shown above: Front row, left to right — Mrs. R. B. Gunn, Lloydminster, President of the Farm Women's Union of Alberta; Carl J. Stimpfle, Egremont, President of the Farmers' Union of Alberta; Henry Young, Millet, Vice-President; back row, the three Executive Committeemen, Rudolph Hennig, Fort Saskatchewan; Orrin Hart, Claresholm, and Andrew B. Wood, Dewberry.

Conference Finds Markets Outlook Uncertain

OTTAWA, Dec. 14th.—The likelihood that "moderate" surpluses of some farm products this year may be aggravated in 1950, though not necessarily for the same items, was stressed by C. V. Parker, head of the Bureau of Statistics Farm Division, speaking before the Dominion-Provincial Farm Conference here. As a result there might be lower prices for these products, and prices of the things the farmer buys would also be lower.

However, the prices of things the farmer buys would not go down as rapidly as the prices of the things he sells, Mr. Parker predicted.

No Longer "Free Market"

Minister of Agriculture Gardiner said the farmer could not longer depend upon a "free market" in the United Kingdom, and world markets might be closed to Canada if the U.S. continued to declare farm products surplus under Marshall Aid. He suggested that Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom are not in sufficient agreement to assure the Canadian farmer prosperity.

The Minister made no mention of new 1950 farm contracts with the U.K. He stated that none had been signed as yet. (The wheat contract for the present crop, of course, remains in force.)

It was stated today that Western grain men are opposed to a proposal to postpone part of the sales of wheat under the British contract and to use the funds released for the purchase of Canadian bacon.

(Special to The Western Farm Leader)

By M. McDougall, Press Gallery

OTTAWA, Dec. 14th. — At the time of writing, doubt still exists about the British contract situation, but this doubt is pretty certain to be removed, in large part at least during the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference here.

In the closing day of the session the whole subject of the British contracts, their history, the amounts of different commodities delivered during the war by the Canadian farmer, Canada's aid to Britain during and following the war, and the currency difficulty were very thoroughly discussed.

The debate has to be taken with its appropriate background in mind. At a time of negotiation of a contract, it is very natural that each side should emphasize its arguments.

The British have been pretty effective traders since they dealt in Cornish tin with the Phoenicians from the Mediterranean some centuries before the Christian era, and now with their backs against the economic wall and

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Suggests Farm Workers' Workmen's Compensation, Unemployment Insurance

(Special to The Western Farm Leader)

OTTAWA, Ont.—In the Agricultural Conference, Arthur MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labor, suggested making workmen's compensation available to farm workers and also unemployment insurance, as means of stemming the unfortunate exodus of farm youth to urban industry. The present lack of social security, with in many cases lack of adequate housing, long hours of work and seasonality of employment are contributory causes of the drift from the farms to the cities, said Mr. MacNamara.

Fish Co-op Thriving

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. — Prince Rupert's Fishermen's Co-operative recently held its annual meeting, when reports showed that during 1948 fish to the value of \$2,800,000 was marketed for members by this thriving organization. Organized in 1931, the co-op has a membership of 3,300, and assets totalling almost \$3 million.

A new 20,000-acre forest is to be created in Wales during the next forty years, about 450 acres being planted each year, according to plans of the British Forestry Commission.



Central Alberta Dairy Pool Section

SLOGAN FOR TODAY: "Test and Weigh and Keep the Cows That Pay"



Dairymen! What's Ahead?

FRANKLY, we don't know.

The Government at the present is the largest buyer of dairy products: butter, eggs, poultry and cheese, and that is a condition that we are not used to.

We are an exporting nation as regards our farm products, but our export business has shrunk to a point where to keep prices at their present levels the Government is stock piling and until the export program for Great Britain

To Members of the Southern Alberta Dairy Pool, now merged with the Central Alberta Dairy Pool:

Welcome!! Once again!!

We are happy to have you join us.

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Fraternally Yours,

Jas. A. Wood.

PRESIDENT.

is announced for 1950, there is little the dairy industry can do but wait and see. **One thing is fairly certain and that is we cannot reasonably expect higher prices for our dairy products, and they could be lower.**

What can the dairyman do about it? **There is extra money in dairying for you right now** if you do certain things, and they are:

THINGS TO DO

(1) Milk only the cows that pay. Test each cow and find out how much butterfat she gives each day. (If you are not certain how to do this easily, write and ask us.)

(3) Watch the quality of your milk and cream. Special grade cream gives you about 30 cents more a can than No. 1. Milk that is clean and cool will always be acceptable. **Badly produced milk is not acceptable to anyone.**

(3) Improve the quality of your feed. Sow some grasses and legumes each year.

(4) Go after the warble fly NOW — it's the biggest milk thief unhung. Every lump in your cow's back now means less milk next summer. The warble fly is in that lump now — **KILL IT NOW.**

Make it one of your New Year's resolutions to start this program. There are extra dollars in it for you.

The Management and Staff of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool extend to you all the sincere wish for a bright and happy New Year.

WHO, ME?



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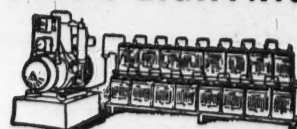


Poultry Production

While the Maritime Provinces and Quebec had more domestic fowl on June 1st, 1949, than a year earlier, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported recently, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia showed decreases. The total for all Canada was not quite 1 per cent less. Every Province reported more turkeys on their farms than in 1948, the increase for the country as a whole reaching 30 per cent. There were 13 per cent more geese and 10 per cent more ducks.

Good quality hay is the cheapest source of nutrients for young calves, and a good source of quality protein, states Butter-Fat. Dairy calves will begin eating hay when two weeks old, and the roughage factor stimulates growth while the mineral and vitamin value of good hay is excellent, for both bone and muscle building.

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CALGARY and EDMONTON

Veterans' Section Farmers' Union Now Playing Big Role

Re-elect McMillan Chairman; Convention Gives Officers Delegate Status

By THE EDITOR

Recognition of the highly important role which is being filled by the Veterans' Section of the Farmers' Union of Alberta, in watching with special vigilance the interests of ex-servicemen who are engaged in farming, was manifested at the Annual Convention of the Union in several important ways.

Amend Constitution

The delegates amended the Constitution to provide that officers of the Section, whether delegates or otherwise, shall have full delegate standing in the Convention. Strong support of this amendment was given by Vice-President Henry Young. The amendment was unanimously approved.

The delegates also gave unanimous endorsement to a number of resolutions submitted by the Section — well drafted and dealing with issues of much concern to ex-soldiers.

All told, nearly 50 ex-service men and women took part in the proceedings of the general Convention, and between 30 and 40 attended the Annual Meeting of the Veterans' Section held in the Palliser Hotel, at which many of the special problems with which they are confronted were dealt with in a businesslike way, and officers for the coming year were elected.

McMillan Chairs Section

The first Chairman of the Section, J. L. McMillan, who farms near Edmonton, and has a long record of service in the farm movement, including the Alberta Livestock Co-operative, was unanimously re-elected; and J. M. Wheatley of Chancellor was elected Executive Member. Mr. Wheatley, who is President of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts, has long experience as a worker and executive in Province-wide farm organizations. The meeting elected L. H. Weber of Magnolia Alternative Executive Member. He is also a keen worker in the farm movement and in Veterans' business. Earl Wright of Athabasca, who gave an excellent detailed report on activities of the past year, was re-elected Executive Secretary.

The Section approved an amendment to the Constitution, which was afterwards adopted by the general Convention, providing that members of the F.U.A. "who have served with the Allied forces, their wives and widows, shall be eligible for membership." A delegate from Blackie, V. Westersund, who served with distinction in the U.S. Army Air Corps, was the first member to be enrolled in the Section under the terms of the amended Constitution.

Master Farm Family Awards

The meeting adopted a resolution asking that Master Farm Family Awards for ex-servicemen farmers be provided for, on a similar basis to the general Master Farm Family Awards now made by the Alberta government. It was pointed out that the conditions under which Veterans have built up their farms have been affected to a great extent by services given overseas, in many cases for an extended period of years.

The meeting placed their full support behind a resolution urging the Department of Veterans' Affairs to appoint a representative to the Provincial Arbitration Board to act for Veterans.

Mr. McMillan and Mr. Wright later explained to the Convention the significance of the various resolutions which were contained in Mr. Wright's report.

Compensation for Surface Rights

Among resolutions given unanimous endorsement by the Convention upon

Ward District Director

M. H. Ward of Arrowwood was elected Director of the Farmers' Union of Alberta for District 12, by delegates to the Annual Convention from that District, following the election of Orrin Hart of Claresholm to the Executive of the Union. Mr. Hart had been elected Director at the District Convention. Mr. Ward, who will hold office until the next District Convention to be held in July next, has given many years' service as a worker and able executive in the farm movement in various fields. He is Vice-President of the United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative Ltd.

their submission was one which pointed out that the present policy of the Alberta Government is to credit all compensation paid by the oil companies to the account of the veteran who is under long-term contract, and that the veteran will realize nothing out of such compensation until his contract expires with the Alberta Government and the Veterans' Land Act authorities, while in the meantime he may suffer great personal inconvenience. It is therefore asked that the compensation be considered as revenue from the homestead, and that the Provincial Government "hold only a share pursuant to the contract as produce of the farm."

A number of the resolutions are quoted in full below, in order that the reasons for the Veterans' requests may be made clear:

Title to Homesteads

"Whereas Section 43, Chapter 81 of the Land Act (1949) provided that a lessee may, after five years, apply for notification for such land upon payment of the purchase price as follows: (a) Minimum of one hundred dollars for a farm not exceeding one quarter section; (b) Minimum of \$1.25 for each additional acre, providing that he has not received assistance from the V.L.A., and

"Whereas, veterans are obliged, in

each year of their unexpired contract, to pay to the Provincial Government one-sixth of all crops harvested annually,

"Resolved that Veterans wishing to apply for title through purchase may do so after five years, providing that

title be held in trust pending expiry of the V.L.A. contract.

Exploration Crown Lands

"Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 81, Section 100 of the Public Lands Act, the Minister may grant license to any

(Continued on Page 7)

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Peace On Earth

As Christmas again approaches, let us give greater emphasis to its meaning. Let us not hesitate or falter in our search for understanding, tolerance, and forgiveness.

Let us be humbly grateful for the bounty of our harvest and for the tangible fruits of our labours. Above all, let us not forget the part we play. Let us continue united in pursuit of our heritage, its meaning clear as the Star that rises slowly in the East. Let us remember always the greatest gift of all,

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GOOD WILL TO MEN"**

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"FARM PICTURE CLOUDY"

An Ottawa despatch in a daily newspaper describing the opening session of the annual Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference carried the headline, "Farm Picture Cloudy".

We go to press before the proceedings are concluded; but it is quite clear that the headline is accurately descriptive. The prospects are uncertain. Agriculture in Canada faces a time of great difficulty; even though, as N. E. Dodd, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, stated in Ottawa on Tuesday, most of the world will go hungry during the coming year, as it has done in past ages.

There is no lack of would-be "customers" for food. What is lacking is the means of bridging the gap between producer and potential consumer.

Even very young farmers, and those whose memories are short, will not miss the significance of the prediction made by C. V. Parker, head of the Farm Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, that while some decline in the prices of the things the farmer has to buy may be expected, these prices are not likely to go down as rapidly as the prices of the things he has to sell.

We don't think the farm people will be ready, this time, to accept as "inevitable" the revival of the old tragic farce — of needed food surpluses bringing disaster first of all and in the most severe form to the primary producer.

We reported in our last issue the vetoing of the International Commodity Clearing House plan which the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers had designed to ward off crisis and feed the hungry; the plan which the head of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, N. E. Dodd, had endorsed. Those who caused the rejection of the plan have the responsibility of finding an operative substitute. If IFAP is not yet strong enough to persuade governments of its necessity, it is the task of the farmers everywhere to build their international organization to a strength that will be commanding.

Alberta farmers can play their part. They can build the Farmers' Union, the farmers' various co-operatives, the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, of which the Union and the co-operatives are member organizations. Inside these organizations they will have the right to participate in the making of policy — they will be entitled to criticize as well as to seek to make converts to their own views. Those who stay outside remain ineffective. There is nothing they can do but wait for the "inevitable", instead of helping to determine what "the inevitable" shall be.

OFF TO A GOOD START

When two organizations of different origins merge their forces, time is needed to make fusion fully effective.

Very little time has passed since the U.F.A.

Continuity

Another year is ended, and its script
Is safely filed against the distant day
When Time, the great interpreter, has stripped
The futile and the meaningless away.
Then those who follow in our steps shall read
Of what we planned and did in these our days,
And, weighing the fruition of our seed,
The wisdom of our sowing will appraise.

New years inspire new effort, and we strain
Toward the promise of the great unknown,
But while the seasons briefly wax and wane
A year grows old and suddenly is flown.
The scrolls of many years must be unrolled
Before the story of one year is told.

—ISA GRINDLAY JACKSON

and the A.F.U. came together, but the first Annual Convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta demonstrated that very substantial progress has been made towards the attainment of a common point of view.

In quite a few of the debates and decisions of the week this tendency was reflected. The determination to abide by the terms of union was strongly expressed by votes of delegates who came from both founding organizations.

Division, when it occurred, quite often followed new lines; there was a positive crossing of what had been the old ones. A common consciousness, a common loyalty, are growing in strength.

There were some vigorous debates. There always will be in any organization which has vitality. Our observation has been that, granted fundamental unity in aim, farm organizations can thrive on a certain diversity of approach, among its members, to the problems which call for solution. The kind of unanimity that can give strength is the kind that results from frank and free and even spirited comparison of ideas.

The total registration of 602 was itself an indication of the deep interest which the Locals are taking in the development of the policies of the organization.

The skill and impartiality of the chairmen — their indulgence and helpfulness when a delegate lacked experience or confidence — as well as their ready wit, won deserved praise. There was the kind of chairmanship that creates a happy "atmosphere", and tends to diffuse goodwill even when debate is keen.

The Farmers' Union of Alberta is off to a good start. We offer our congratulations. We believe it would be a gain to the movement, and a contribution to democratic progress in social construction, if the membership of the Union were to be much more than doubled during the coming year. The larger the membership becomes, the more accurately will it be able to express the "general will" of the farm people of the Province.

"If Agriculture Is Not Stabilized Our Whole Economy Becomes Unstable"

President Stimpfle Delivers Annual Address.

STRESSING the necessity for concentrated effort by the farm people to insure that the prices of agricultural products shall be stabilized, Carl J. Stimpfle, President of the Farmers' Union of Alberta, declared in his address to the Annual Convention of the Union in Calgary last week that "if agriculture is not stabilized, then our whole economy becomes unstable," and added, "In my opinion, only through boards set up with producer representatives handling the various commodities can stabilization be accomplished."

Coarse Grains Problem

Dealing specifically with the successful efforts of the organized farm bodies to ensure the handling of coarse grains by the Canadian Wheat Board this year, Mr. Stimpfle noted the difference between the problems of marketing of coarse grains and wheat which arise from the fact that wheat is exported, while coarse grains are largely consumed on the domestic market. He suggested that criticism concerning the policy followed in marketing coarse grains should be withheld until the Board has been given a chance to see what can be done to stabilize coarse grains prices.

"Of course," said the President, "the Grain Exchange is doing everything in its power to condemn the Board's system of orderly marketing... don't be stamped with this propaganda until you have all the facts before you. The operation of the Wheat Board may not be perfect, but by trial and error AND a strong farm organization, on the alert to give assistance, we can build up an orderly marketing system that will go a long way to stabilization of agriculture in Western Canada."

Serious Situation in Livestock

Mr. Stimpfle announced that in view of the serious fluctuation in livestock prices in recent weeks, together with the unusually high prices for barley and oats, he had undertaken to call a meeting of plant managers, and farm organizations, through the Federation, with representatives from the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, and labor, for the purpose first of trying to bring price stability and secondly to find ways and means of stabilizing the production of livestock, particularly hogs, having regard to the serious drop in hog production.

Speaking of the efforts which are being made to end the statutory rates on grain provided under the terms of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, the President declared that "if the fight to maintain this agreement is lost, it will be the greatest blow dealt agriculture in Western Canada since Confederation."

Why Strong Organization Imperative
"With dwindling markets, increased cost of production, lower prices, along with ever-increasing freight rates on other commodities, it would be nothing short of a disaster to farmers in Western Canada. Only by a strong farm organization can we hope to hold what we have gained in this respect."

Mr. Stimpfle spoke of the gain made through the organization in such income tax matters as the establishment of the basic herd principle, and pointed to further changes which must be pressed for. (Some of these were dealt with later by the Convention and will be outlined in *The Western Farm Leader*.)

The President expressed regret that no word had been received concerning a brief on the subject of surface rights in areas of oil development which had been submitted to the Minister of Land and Mines, Mr. Tanner, by the Board of the A.F.A., and stressed the need for action by the Convention.

Relations With A.F.A. and C.F.A.

Regarding the position of the Union in relation to the A.F.A. and C.F.A., Mr. Stimpfle suggested that the Con-

vention or Board set up a committee of inquiry "to bring in recommendations that will make our entire movement more acceptable to all farmers." He believed that changes in the Federation set-up were needed "to bring it in line with the wishes of the farmer on the land."

Mr. Stimpfle declared: "Never before in our history has there been such a need for a strong farm organization... We are living in a very highly organized society. No society places more responsibility on the individual than does the democratic society."

"In my opinion, the policy now followed by the nations of the world will nullify all the efforts of the farm organizations through IFAP and FAO in working out a solution to get surplus foods to the hungry peoples of the world."

"We have seen many economic changes take place this past year, and because of the economic system throughout the world, the many problems we had hoped would be solved have become more aggravated, and by that I mean the Marshall Plan, the European Recovery Plan, Lend Lease, and so on — then, finally, the devaluation of currency."

The President dealt briefly with a number of organizational questions.

OTTAWA LETTER

(Continued from Page 1)

bound as they are by their currency troubles, their powers of negotiating are not likely to soften. That this means that they are unappreciative of Canada's aid in war, of the billion dollar gift and the loan of a billion and a quarter extended before the U.S. granted its loan of \$3,750,000,000 is of course without foundation, and is indeed quite absurd.

Period of Negotiation

There is of course no suggestion that the British people are unappreciative in the statement of Agricultural Minister J. G. Gardiner in his Brantford speech, or in what he has said in Parliament when the British contracts were under discussion. He described the environment under which negotiations are being conducted. He said: "The British people still like our food and still want it, but I am pointing out to you that officially Great Britain does not want it." You can interpret the word "want" in any way you like, the Minister said. "You can decide whether it means that they are not able to pay for it or something else, but they say: 'We do not desire to have it from Canada.'" This does not refer to wheat. The present contract for wheat expires next August 1st, that is 1950, but there will be the contract to follow.

The amount of the cut in other food contracts will be made known during the present conference, but it is probable that it will be from \$30,000,000 to \$50,000,000. It is to be noted, however, that of the present year's bacon contract of 160 million pounds, Canada had shipped only 58 million by the end of September. During the past year Britain contracted for about \$95,000,000 of Canadian food, other than wheat.

High Level of Supplies

In the review and general forecast of agricultural conditions for 1950 presented to the Conference, it was stated that there would probably be a high level of supplies due to reductions in export outlets and a possible decline in

farm prices. Domestic demand for farm products is expected to remain high, but it was believed that even with domestic requirements remaining high, this may not be sufficient to offset the effects of declining sales abroad. The decline in agricultural exports may be proportionately greater with the United Kingdom and other sterling areas because of the sterling dollar difficulties.

The domestic market will not be supported as it was in the past year by the repayment of the refundable portion of the wartime income tax. In 1950, the participation payments on earlier crops will not be as high as in 1949. Prices of goods and services purchased by farmers for use in production and living may move slowly downward, but the decline will likely be slower than in the prices of farm commodities.

Where Canada Has Advantage
Of international developments, accurate forecasts are difficult without knowing what will happen in the United States. With normal crops, however, in U.S., it is likely there will be a downward pressure on farm price supports. This possible decline in U.S.

Average Power Rates Of Bonneville Scheme

WASHINGTON, D.C. — During the first part of 1949 the Bonneville Power Administration (publicly operated) sold power at wholesale at an average price of 2.30 mills per kilowatt hour; the average price at which that power was bought for farm and home use was 1.35 cents per k.w. hour.

In its 25th year of business, the Washington Co-operative Chick Association, with headquarters at Bellingham, had operating margins of \$100 millions. Membership has grown from forty to seven thousand.

may not be totally reflected in Canada because of the ten per cent premium on the U.S. dollar which places Canada in a better position in so far as internationally traded commodities are concerned. The greater devaluation of sterling places Canada at a disadvantage in sterling markets.

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Co-ops Eligible for Aid, Ottawa Announces

OTTAWA. — Government assistance to cold storage plants offering locker facilities to the public will be available to co-operatives as well as individuals and companies, Hon. J. G. Gardiner announces.

With the two chief purposes of getting uniformity of statistical systems of governments, and of improving statistical methods, a three-months course is being held by UN agencies in Paris.

Pool Delegates Deal With Important Issues

View Grain Commission Lethargy With Concern

Many important issues were dealt with by delegates to the Alberta Wheat Pool Convention, which was reported in part in our last issue. Decisions of the concluding sessions are outlined below:

The Dominion Government was asked to make a 25c final payment on all wheat delivered to the five-year Pool conducted by the Canadian Wheat Board in a resolution passed by the delegates attending the annual meeting of the Alberta Wheat Pool. This would bring the price of 1 Northern wheat for the 5-year period, the 1945 to 1949 crops inclusive, to \$2.00 a bushel at the terminal. It is estimated that the total will be approximately 1.3 million bushels. The Convention considered this request justified in view of the fact that wheat was sold for domestic consumption at comparatively low levels during the war and post-war years.

Ask Board Powers Be Continued

The delegates also requested the Government to extend the powers vested in the Canadian Wheat Board as the sole marketing agency for prairie wheat oats and barley. This power, given the Wheat Board by the Federal Government, is due to expire on July 31st, 1950. A number of delegates expressed the opinion that the Wheat Board should have the power to market all wheat on the Prairie Provinces as long as the International Wheat Agreement is in effect. This Agreement runs for 4 years from August 1st, 1949.

Directors Re-Elected

During the Convention, the delegates met in district meetings and re-elected the Board of Directors of the Alberta Wheat Pool. These are: Ben S. Plumer, Bassano, chairman; E. H. Keith, Sexsmith; Lew Hutchinson, Du-

hamel; G. G. Coote, Nanton; G. L. Harrold, Lamont; W. J. Blair, Naco; A. T. Baker, Nemiscam.

To Advise Minister

A resolution was passed instructing the Board of Directors to advise the Minister of Trade and Commerce that the Convention viewed with concern the lethargy of the Board of Grain Commissioners in administering the Canada Grain Act. This arose over the Board's action in reducing the tolerance of cracked and split grain allowed in 1 Northern wheat in the midst of the harvest season, which has resulted in discrimination against west coast terminal operators.

The Pool Convention ended on December 1st, after a nine-day sitting.



POOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS RE-ELECTED

Members of the Board of Directors of the Alberta Wheat Pool, all of whom were re-elected at the recent Annual Meeting of Delegates, are shown above. Front row: Lew Hutchinson, Ben S. Plumer, George G. Coote; back row: E. H. Keith, G. L. Harrold, A. T. Baker, W. J. Blair. The Board re-elected Mr. Plumer Chairman and Mr. Keith Vice-Chairman.

East to West
OGDEN'S is
the Gift
that's best!

Ogden's FINE CUT

EASY TO ROLL—DELIGHTFUL TO SMOKE

The last day's business was mostly concerned with resolutions. One of these expressed appreciation of the work of the Canadian Wheat Board in the marketing of coarse grains in the interests of the producers. Another expressed satisfaction at the Federal Government's action in placing the marketing of oats and barley under the Wheat Board. The Convention turned down a resolution which called for marketing rye and flax by the Board, the majority of the delegates believing that the Board at present has sufficient responsibility in the marketing of wheat, oats and barley.

Two-Year Term for Directors

It was decided to elect Alberta Wheat Pool Directors for a two-year term instead of one year as at present. At the next election three Directors will be elected for two years and four for one year. The year following, four will be elected for two years, thus providing alternate terms.

A resolution asked the Directors to encourage in every way the importation of goods from the United Kingdom as that country is the greatest potential market for Canadian farm products. Protests against any move to abrogate the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement which provides low rates for the haulage of grain was expressed in another resolution.

Various Resolutions

Among the list of further resolutions passed were the following:

That the distribution of coal at country points be undertaken by the Alberta Wheat Pool where the service is requested by the majority of members.

That negotiations be conducted with other co-operatives to provide a co-operative radio program but that such program shall not interfere with the Wheat Pool news broadcasts.

That the Board of Directors investigate the matter of safety devices on farm tractors and implements.

That the Wheat Board be contacted with a request that stocks of wheat, oats and barley suitable for seed be retained in country elevators until domestic seed requirements have been ascertained.

That the Canadian Wheat Board be asked to rigidly enforce delivery quota regulations; also that quotas should not be raised until a careful investigation (Continued at Foot of Next Column)

A.F.A. NOTES

By JAS. R. McFALL, Secretary

Poultry Marketing. — In these notes from time to time we have attempted to outline Federation activities with regard to poultry marketing. The Federation and its affiliate poultry organizations realize the seriousness of future prospects for the poultry industry, especially if Canada does not get a renewed contract with Great Britain for shell and powdered eggs. They appreciate the fact that steps must be taken which will lead to long-term stability for the industry.

As a result, a Brief was presented to the Provincial Cabinet on December 1st. This Brief asked the Government to review and, if necessary, amend our marketing legislation so a Marketing Board could be set up which would have control over the marketing of poultry products in the Province and could take action with other Provincial marketing boards in dealing with export.

At present, it would appear that the Government is not willing to give legislative support to such an endeavor. This does not say, however, that the Federation will not continue to press for the implementation of such measures. We can only say that it is regrettable that the Provincial Government fails to recognize the seriousness of the situation.

Another approach by the Federation to this problem which is supported by poultry producers across Canada, is that of asking the Agricultural Prices Support Board to establish a floor price for poultry products.

For the moment the future outlook of the poultry industry is clouded, but not hopeless.

Farm Forum Rally. — On Thursday evening, December 8th, more than 80 persons gathered for a Farm Forum rally at the Empress Hotel Grill, Calgary.

Following supper, a group of seven, chosen at random from the gathering, took part in a discussion on a prepared question, "What do you suggest should be done in Alberta to establish Farm Forum on a sound, progressive and expanding basis?" The discussion was chaired by the Farm Forum Secretary and those taking part were Allan Boatman, Claresholm; Mrs. Nelson, Claresholm; Mr. Glen Valleau, Wainwright; Mrs. Cochlan, Stavelly; Mrs. Moen, Millet; Mr. L. Bonertz, Pincher Creek; and Mr. Ralph, Stavelly.

This discussion group was used as an example of how a group of people virtually unknown to one another can be brought together and led to discuss and reach decisions on a given problem. Unknown to the participants, a small committee in the audience comprised of Mrs. W. Taylor, Wainwright, Mrs. L. E. Pharis, Magrath and Bob Graham of the CBC Farm Broadcast Service, was evaluating the performance.

All those present were then free to take part and many helpful ideas were expressed. This was an experiment in Alberta Farm Radio Forum work but it is now the wish of many that such rallies will become regular events.

tion is made.

That the tolerance of other grains in No. 1 feed oats be raised from 12 per cent to 20 per cent, and in No. 1 feed barley from 4 per cent to 12%.

That the cost of education in rural Alberta should be borne by the Provincial Government to the extent of 50%.

That the Pool Directors and Management discuss the distribution of cars with railway companies with a view to obtaining a more efficient method.

That the Pool Directors investigate methods of marketing coarse grains in which the element of speculation would not enter into the price as between producer and consumer.

F.U.A. VETERANS' SECTION

(Continued from Page 3)

person or Corporation to enter into and survey or explore any portion of a homestead lease, and—

"Whereas any portion of such land may be withdrawn from the title at the pleasure of the Minister, and the lessee will receive no compensation whatsoever for the withdrawal or inconvenience other than a proportionate reduction in the rental based on acreage reduction; and whereas such withdrawals might well render the farm unsuitable for full time farming and thus result in a loss to the settler,

"Therefore be it resolved that compensation based on current values be paid to the lessee, subject to arbitration.

Veterans Residing on Crown Lands

"Whereas the Provincial Government has issued a directive to veterans established on Crown Lands to move on to their holdings without delay, and

"Whereas the cost of constructing suitable housing on these new farms is exorbitant, and many veterans have suitable accommodation in the immediate vicinity of their holdings free of rental,

"Resolved that these veterans be

Need to Consolidate Buying Power From Coast to Coast Seen

By B. J. BOWLEN

Secretary, Alberta Co-operative Union

EDMONTON, Alta.—"We are only nibbling at the edges of co-operative benefits until the buying power of all co-operators from coast to coast is concentrated through co-operative wholesales and processing plants," declared Dr. M. M. Coady, President of the Canadian Association of Adult Education in an address to several hundred people in Edmonton recently.

"Great benefits have resulted from co-operation in our local associations,

permitted to reside elsewhere than on their holdings, providing that, (1) Such residence will not interfere with the economy of the farm, (2) provisions of the contract are being fulfilled other than residence."

but the really great advantages will come in the future through co-operative ownership of wholesale and processing facilities.

Dr. Coady explained that several centuries ago the Industrial Revolution had shifted the ownership of industry from individuals to large corporations. This concentration of ownership in the hands of a very few people has had many bad effects on our society.

While we would not say that the Industrial Revolution was not a great development which has greatly improved our standard of living, we must say that since it is the consumption of goods which causes profits to be made, surely the consumers are entitled to a share of these profits. Co-operation is the formula by which direct ownership and control of many of the processing and distributing facilities of a nation may be returned to the people who use these services, the speaker pointed out.

"By what distortion of logic can a person say that the co-operative movement is not private enterprise," declared Dr. Coady. "It is the only means whereby all the people can obtain ownership of the businesses which they require."



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Prince, come join in my song of cheer;
Come join all men in my merry lay.
Who shall forbid it just once a year
We raise the roof on a Christmas Day?
So come, my gallants, be blithe, be gay
And sing and dance all this day and then
A last glad toast and to bed away—
God rest ye merry, gentlemen.

Sing, my gallants, with these most dear,
Songs that shall keep dull care at bay.
What's it matter if winter's here?
Be as happy as flow'rs in May.
Oh, let frivolity hoid full sway
In mansion fair and in but and ben.
I raise my glass and to you I say,
God rest ye merry, gentlemen.

Sing, my gallants, that all may hear
Sweet Peace invited to come and stay
On earth for ever without a fear
Of Mars in all of his dread array.
Sing, young gallants, sing old and grey,
Glad that Christmas is here again:
For the sake of auld lang syne, I pray
God rest ye merry, gentlemen.

L'ENVOI

Prince, I'm sure you'll not say me nay,
If with folly we chance to stray;
So sing, my gallants, all day and then
God rest ye merry, gentlemen.

—SYDNEY MAY



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to One and All

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HUGH W. ALLEN,
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POST-WAR CHRONICLE

December 1st. — Canada's air transport board calls on U.S. aviation firm, Colonial Airlines, to defend its license for commercial service between Montreal and New York; Ottawa despatch says Colonial has prevented T.C.A. from operating competitive service, as stipulated in Canadian-American air agreement of last June. Sweden reaffirms decision to stay out of North Atlantic Pact.

Dec. 2nd. — British House of Commons passes Canadian constitution bill through all its stages.

Dec. 3rd. — Following agreement on defence plans, U.S. will shortly begin shipments of a billion dollars' worth of arms to North Atlantic treaty countries, states Washington despatch. Britain asks Russia to allow UN investigation of charges that many from former Baltic states are in forced labor camps.

Dec. 4th. — Uranium was shipped to Russia by Alaska air route, during the war, charges former member of U.S. air force, G. R. Jordan; says the late Harry L. Hopkins gave Russia "the A-bomb on a platter"; Congressional committees begin investigations.

Dec. 5th. — U.S. gives "wholehearted support" to FAO plan for advisory committee on farm surpluses; Canada also will support, though delegation had hoped for more positive action; H. H. Hannam says plan falls far short of what primary producers had wanted. Twenty million monkeys in United Provinces, India, compete with sixty million human beings for food; New Delhi report states monkeys consume nearly \$2 millions' worth of food daily. Britain stops works on atom pile, stated in London, because of expected new developments.

Dec. 6th. — UN political committee calls for "hands off" China. FAO adopts advisory committee plan for surplus farm products. ECA imposes penalties on seven countries receiving Marshall Aid for failure to make stipulated use of U.S. shipping.

Dec. 7th. — Lt.-Gen. Groves, head of A-bomb project in U.S. from 1942 to 1947, tells Congressional investigating committee that neither Wallace nor Hopkins used influence to send uranium or atomic data to Russia. Plan for international control in Jerusalem approved by UN committee.

Dec. 8th. — Russia in 1943 secured small quantity of uranium among other supplies sent from Canada to war-time ally states Hon. C. D. Howe; was then used in production of armaments and for medicinal purposes, later generally known to be necessary in atomic development. Chinese Nationalists transfer headquarters to Formosa. Western powers are dividing reparations plant of western Germany without reference to Russia, states London report; further negotiations with Russia deferred until four-power agreement on Germany is reached. Four Geneva conventions of 1949, limiting war weapons, signed by 29 countries; Russia critical because proposals for banning atomic weapons not included; her delegate delayed, expected arrive later. New International Trades Union organization, formed in London, represents 53 countries; declares Franco regime totalitarian, and opposes admission of Spain to Atlantic Pact. British Labor retains Bradford seat with somewhat reduced majority; 35th successive by-election victory.

Dec. 9th. — UN votes for international control of Jerusalem; both Israel and Jordan announce continued opposition to plan. J. Parnell Thomas, for-

Gives More Than She Receives

LONDON, Eng.—Britain's gifts to overseas countries since the end of the war now total £400 millions — more than the Marshall Aid she has received to date. She has also made loans of nearly £500 millions to overseas countries.

mer chairman of House Committee on Un-American Activities, sent to jail for 18 months and fined \$10,000 for defrauding U.S. Government.

Dec. 10th. — Australian Labor Government defeated in general election. Chinese Nationalist garrison at Kuming deserts, hands city over to Communists; Nationalists retain only three positions in China proper.

Dec. 11th. — Convicted of spying for U.S.S.R., ten White Russians given jail sentences in Yugoslavia.

Dec. 12th. — Moscow announces all German war prisoners to be sent home by Christmas. Cheng-tu, one of three remaining positions held by Chinese Nationalists, abandoned to Communists.

Dec. 13th. — There can be no peace without food, declares FAO Director-General Dodd; says his organization needs \$50 millions a year from UN to teach hungry people how to grow food.

Dec. 14th. — London threatened by wildcat strike of electrical workers.

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The Western Farm Leader

U.F.A. Building, Calgary

TIMMIE'S PRIVATE STAR

By NOREEN McPHERSON



CHRISTMAS meant only three things to Timmie O'Shea. First, he would see the Christmas tree at the hall with the star on top of it; second, his dad would drink too much and, third, someone might give him a Christmas dinner.

As this Christmas approached, strangely enough his thoughts centred around that Christmas tree and the star. When he closed his eyes he could see it gleaming high on the very peak of the tree. And he wanted it... he wanted it more than he had ever wanted anything before. That was when his plan began to develop.

When the night came for him to go to the hall to the Christmas concert, nobody would have known he was a boy with a plan. In fact, few would ever have known if he came or stayed away. He was a dirty, unkempt little urchin whom people found it more convenient not to notice.

This night, then, it wasn't difficult for him to slip into the hall, crawl along the wall to the tree and pull himself up on the window ledge nearby. Some of the neighborhood kids were standing, scrubbed and shining, at the front singing "Holy Night". All eyes were on them. Timmie leaned over from the window sill, grabbed the tip of a branch and began to pull the top of the tree gently towards him. The star shone softly in the glow of the tree lights. It flickered and beckoned enticingly. Soon it would be his. He inched his hand a little closer to it and then it was it happened. An ornament fell with a crash on the floor. Everyone's attention turned to him.

A man was beside him jerking him roughly. "You little brat," he said, "pulling down the Christmas tree. You don't respect anything. All you know how to do is lie and steal. Now get out of here."

Timmie didn't have to be told to go. He ran as hard as he could until he reached the fire escape behind the block where he and his dad lived. He crawled up the steps and huddled in a corner trying to shut out the cold. All the glow and the magic of the star were gone — his great plan was shattered and he had nothing but a heavy, defeated feeling down inside himself. Nobody wanted him. All he knew how to do was lie and steal.

He blew on his fingers and wiggled his toes, waiting until it was safe to go home. He was scared they'd set the cops on him so he didn't dare leave too soon. The minutes dragged by. Then all of a sudden he could see one of the dames from the hall down below him. She shone a flashlight up at him. When the beam picked him out she started up the steps.

"Don't come up here," he yelled.

"Timmie," she said, "why did you want to pull the tree down?" She kept coming towards him.

He was silent for a moment. Then he blurted out, "I didn't wanta pull it down. I just wanted the star."

She sat down beside him and he could feel the softness of her fur coat against his hand.

"The one on the top?" she asked.

"Yeah."

She put part of her coat around him even though he pushed against her and tried to get away.

"It wouldn't be beautiful in your hands," she said. "It would be dull and cold and all the sparkle would be gone. But look up right now, Timmie."

He looked up where she pointed to the sky.

"You know," she said, "a new star is born every Christmas Eve just for someone who is searching for love and joy and peace. See that star right up above us? That's your star. It's God's promise to you and no one can ever take it from you."

Timmie gazed at the bright star in the deep, dark sky and he could see as plain as could be that it bore a tag, "Timmie O'Shea's Private Star".

He grinned and the tight little bud that was his heart suddenly began to open under the fingers of a new and glorious dream. He stood up, squared his shoulders and walked back with the swell dame to the hall.

Carols in Twelve Languages



New Canadians, former "D.P.s", were guests of honor at a party given by residents of Goderich, Ontario, when Christmas Carols, known the world over, were sung in twelve different languages. Audrey Allison, above, was one of a chorus of local girls.

Care for Homeless Children

More than 2,300 children have been "adopted" for three-month periods, or longer, by Canadians, through the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada. They maintain convalescent homes across Europe, where homeless children are given good food, good clothing and good care. Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, executive director, who has recently returned from a long tour of these homes, says there are still thousands of children who need such rehabilitation; children who don't know their own names; children who were born in concentration camps, and have only known fear, hunger, misery and disease. Three months in one of these rest homes costs only \$45; and one child can be "adopted" for such a period by individuals or clubs; or, states Dr. Hitschmanova, smaller donations are welcomed. Her address is 48 Sparks Street, Ottawa.

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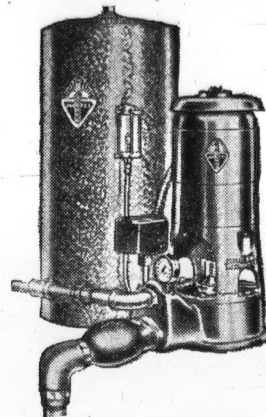
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Eleven members joined Reid Hill Junior F.U.A. at a recent meeting, reports the secretary, Miss Jean Smith.

The Gladness of Life

Something in the Breath of Morn—
Something in the Stars at night
Make me glad that I was born
In this Age of Opening Light!
Every sunrise brings to Man
Something Better, Something New—
Every Twilight sees the Plan
Opening out a wider view!
As the coral beds at sea
Grow unseen to human eyes,
So Man's Vision, bold and free,
Sees its Beauteous Temples rise.
Slowly, slowly, Age on Age,
Builds the Mind its Ivory Tower—
Writes upon the beckoning page,
Hope and Beauty, Love and Power.
BERT HUFFMAN.

R.R. No. 4,
New Westminster, B.C.

If all survived, the descendants of one pair of rats would number 3,500,000 in three years. Rats are now costing three of the Western Provinces \$16,000,000 a year, the fourth, Alberta, having so far escaped the invasion.

A new school was brought into use every 36 hours in Britain, from June to October last.

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Farm Women's Union Holds First Convention

By MARJORIE K. STILES, Didsbury

MRS. R. B. GUNN, formerly first vice-president, was elected President of Alberta Farm Women's Union at their first Annual Convention held last week in Calgary. She is well known to Alberta farm people, having served in the farm organizations since their inception.

Mrs. Gunn is a member of the Eugenics Board, and in this capacity annually visits the Provincial Mental Institutions and Central Alberta Sanatorium in Calgary. She lives on a mixed farm which is appropriately called Gunnholm, situated close to the Saskatchewan border in the Lloydminster area. She has one son who at present is doing research work at McGill University, a specialist in scientific agriculture, and a daughter who is a nurse.

Mrs. C. T. Armstrong of Hussar was elected First Vice-President. Mrs. Armstrong is a gifted speaker and an amateur radio operator, holding a license as a "Ham". She is also interested in the family herd of Hereford cattle and grain farming. She has served the farm organizations since coming to Alberta, and has been a Director of this organization for several years.

Mrs. M. E. Lowe, Namas, immediate Past President, was elected to serve as Second Vice-President. She is a member of the Senate of the University and was a member of the final judging committee for the Master Farmer Awards for Alberta.

Mrs. Lowe's Presidential Address

In her President's address on the opening day of the Convention, Mrs. Lowe pointed out that on every hand there are examples of professions effectively organized to ensure fair returns and better working conditions for their people; but farmers seem willing to let someone else bear the responsibility of organization to provide safeguards for the future.

Beyond Four Walls of Home

Mrs. Lowe said it had not been difficult to make adjustments in the new organization at the official level during the past year; but it had been a slower process with the rural locals. She urged all thinking women to realize their responsibility extends beyond the four walls of the home and into the community, which has actually become international in scope.

In her report from the Executive, Mrs. M. B. Pharis of Magrath pointed out that while the membership of the F.W.U.A. was 1,782, the highest in many years, there had not been as many new locals organized as they had hoped, and she urged all farm women to belong to a joint local where there was not a F.W.U.A.

Dr. Hincks' Address Is Highlight

One of the highlights of the Convention was the address given by Dr. C. M. Hincks, Director National Committee for Mental Hygiene. He said that for thirty-two years the Committee had been working mostly with Universities, who are training medical personnel, and for governments who are responsible for formulating policy in this connection; but the time had come when it was felt they must attack this problem of mental health, upon which depends the happiness and efficiency of everyone from an individual viewpoint. A distinguished Canadian had declared (and he concurred) that the greatest problems in the world today were to (1) Develop international goodwill and understanding to safeguard world peace; (2) Raise the standard of living throughout the world; (3) Raise the mental health of all people.

He pointed out that thirty to forty per cent of our Canadian people cannot pull their full weight economically or socially because they are mentally ill, and this group costs Canada annually seven million dollars, which is the greatest single loss we sustain, Dr. Hincks believes. He pointed out

that the 50,000 mental patients in Canada is greater than the number of patients in general hospitals.

Preventive Treatment Great Need

While the diagnosis, treatment and therapy for mental illness had improved remarkably in recent years, the great need at present was for preventive medicine in this sphere, and that is why the Mental Hygiene Association of Canada is being incorporated. J. D. Parks, the Dominion organizer, said they hoped within a year to have as many members working for better mental health as there are in the hospitals for treatment.

Mrs. Gunn pointed out that the F.W.U.A. have decided to make mental health their main project of study for the coming year. She said she was thrilled to know that the farm women in Alberta are spearheading this drive for better mental health, and in preventive treatment of maladjusted people before institutional care becomes necessary. She felt the F.W.U.A. could best contribute by sending out literature from the National Association for Mental Hygiene; having speakers address their meetings; showing films, and in so doing, making the average person aware that there are rules which must be obeyed in order to have mental health, just as there is in physical health, and that there is also chance of recovery.

First Women's Convention for Many

For many of the one hundred and forty-five delegates and visitors to the F.W.U.A. Convention this was the first attendance at such a meeting, as they are members of joint F.W.U.A. Locals. However, they seemed to enjoy taking part in the discussions and brought out many interesting points.

When the resolution from the Gleichen Local requesting rural ambulance service was discussed, Mrs. S. Tachit, Hines Creek, Director for District 2 (formerly Miss B. Layercraft, Public Health Nurse), pointed out that such a service would really be limited in scope and expensive, whereas an air ambulance would be able to serve the Province more effectively.

Discussions on the Composite High School were led by Mrs. Stevenett, Innisfail, and Mrs. Stafford, Athabasca, and a resolution requesting more schools of this type was carried.

A request was made for the Govern-

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ment to bear at least fifty per cent of the cost of education. A resolution was moved by Mrs. J. G. Harrold of St. Albert (and carried) that inexperienced school teachers be placed in towns and cities, where supervision is already provided.

Against Standardization of Text Books

Mrs. Logan, Eckville, pointed out that, from a financial viewpoint, it would be fine to have school books standardized for five years, but from a progressive viewpoint, if a text book proved to be unsuitable it would be unfortunate to be bound by such a law. A resolution calling for standardization was defeated.

Health resolutions included a re-
(Continued on Page 13)

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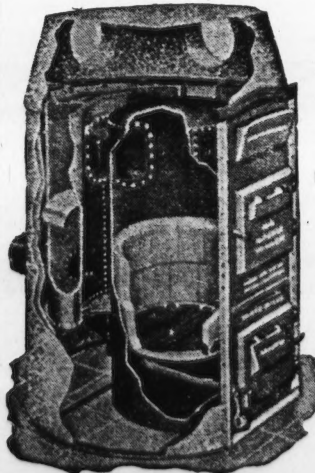
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Executive of F.W.U.A. Relax Between Sessions



Taken during the First Annual Convention in Calgary last week, the picture shows the members of the newly-elected Executive of the Farm Women's Union of Alberta. Left to right: Mrs. R. B. Gunn, Lloydminster, President; Mrs. C. T. Armstrong, Hussar, First Vice-President; Mrs. M. E. Lowe, R.R. 2, St. Albert.

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F.W.U.A. Presidential Address Stresses Opportunity to Maintain Fine Living Standard for World's Farmers

OUR danger does not lie in any fifth column enmity, but in the first column of our people, who are blind because they do not choose to see," declared Mrs. M. E. Lowe, concluding her annual address to the F.W.U.A. Convention. "How can farm people be indifferent to their organization? We have in our own hands the greatest force for peace. We have the opportunity to maintain a fine standard of living for farm people throughout the world if we only see and accept the responsibility."

Solid Core of Membership

Interest in farm organization, Mrs. Lowe pointed out, rises and falls. There is always a 'solid core of membership who keep the organization going, and who realize its necessity, in good times and bad. On the outskirts are those who are only interested in using the services of the organization when a critical situation presents itself.

Our problems, continued Mrs. Lowe, extend beyond the bounds of our Province, and we must have organization at the national and international level; but it is still very necessary that we who produce keep in close touch through the medium of our own Provincial body.

Need Strong Women's Section

The importance of a strong women's section was emphasized. The program of the F.W.U.A., said Mrs. Lowe, "is designed to keep women abreast of events directly affecting the home, the community, through to the national and international level." She referred to the support given by the women's section to various public organizations, such as the Canadian Institute for the Blind, the Red Cross, etc., and to projects in the fields of education, health, and rural housing.

In 1950, said Mrs. Lowe, "we propose that the discussion will be directed toward Adult Education, which has outgrown its earlier concept as being limited to formal classes in reading and writing for

the illiterate or foreign born, or technical and vocational subjects for those who wish to improve their earning capacity. Adult Education covers a wider range of opportunities for all citizens for 'continuing education' — a constant widening of horizons for everyone interested.

Looking Into Library Needs

"We hope to interest our members in looking into library needs in their communities. There are certain provisions made by legislation for the setting up of libraries, but until people feel the need, and request that something be done, we will remain without them. The Hon. Perren Baker, a former Minister of Education in our Province, once said, 'A mother, a child and a good book are three of the greatest forces for good in the national life.' The public library can inspire and supervise this work in the community and can through youth and adult life lead into realms of adventure, interest, contentment, and wisdom, through books."

Mrs. Lowe also referred to the responsibility of the farm people in getting food to countries where "under-nourishment is sapping the will of the people," and expressed the hope that action along these lines might be taken by the FAO.

Preliminary tests of a mechanical tea harvester, carried out in Ceylon, show excellent results.

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Price Support Programs To Feature Discussions At Canadian Federation

OTTAWA, Ont.—Price support programs for farm products will have a large spot in the discussions of the Fourteenth Annual Convention of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to be held at Niagara Falls, January 30th to February 3rd, especially in view of the situation re United Kingdom contracts. There will be open sessions January 31st and February 1st.

Prior to the Convention the Western Agricultural Conference, consisting of the four Western Provincial Federations of Agriculture, and United Grain Growers, Ltd., will be held in the Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, for three days commencing January 25th.

World Wheat Situation

By LEONARD D. NESBITT,
Superintendent of Publicity,
— Alberta Wheat Pool

Canadian wheat sales have been satisfactory according to Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce. He recently made a statement in which he urged wheat producers to deliver their remaining surplus supplies of wheat as quickly as possible in order that the Wheat Board may be able to fill its commitments; also to assist the Board in cleaning up the five-year pool which ends on July 31st, 1950.

Deliveries of wheat from the three Prairie Provinces between August 1st and December 1st of the current year total approximately 212 million bushels of which Alberta's total is 65.4 million bushels. For the same period in the previous year the deliveries totalled 217 million bushels. Visible supplies of Canadian wheat on December 1st totalled 166.6 million bushels as compared with 177.4 million on the same date a year ago. Overseas clearances of Canadian wheat from August 1st to December 1st totalled approximately 71 million bushels as compared with 48.7 million bushels for the same period the previous year.

Should Deliver Soon As Possible

There appears to be a fairly substantial volume of wheat on farms in the Prairie Provinces. Undoubtedly farmers will be delivering every possible bushel during the next six months in order to participate in the five-year pool. It is suggested that as much of this surplus wheat as possible should be delivered as soon as possible.

The events of the next six months will be of utmost importance to the Canadian Wheat growing industry. In the first place there is the knotty problem of finances in the importing countries and then there is the question of whether United States will continue to supply E.C.A. funds to the United Kingdom for the purchase of Canadian wheat. Finally there is the matter of the Canadian government's future policy with regard to wheat marketing through the Wheat Board. The powers of the Board to market the Prairie Province wheat, oats and barley, expire July 31st, 1950. The Government must decide whether such powers will be continued.

New Situation May Develop

While there does not seem to be much difficulty in marketing Canada's surplus wheat this crop year, an entirely different situation may develop in 1950-51. The United States has the prospect of another big winter wheat crop. Europe's agriculture is recovering and lack of dollars is tending to increase production on that continent.

Winter weather has come to the Canadian Prairie Provinces. For the second successive year large areas of this region are going into the winter in a very dry condition. Crop prospects for next year are not any too good.

The most powerful weapon in the fight against tuberculosis is the X-ray. Funds raised by the sale of Christmas Seals are used by the Alberta Tuberculosis Association to buy more X-ray equipment.

Livestock Market Review

EDMONTON STOCKYARDS, Dec. 12th — Receipts were normal during last week; the market closed with all classes barely steady to 50 cents lower, and closer sorting also accomplished some reductions on actual sales. Bulk of good to choice butcher steers traded at \$20 to \$21.50; light weight butcher heifers realized up to \$18.50, with most sales ranging from \$16 to \$18. Top price for cows was \$13.50, with young lightweights up to \$14. Good stocker and feeder steers were held at a practical top of \$17.50; stock heifers were \$12.50 to \$14.50. Hogs are steady with weak undertone; Grade A for shipment \$28, at local plants \$26.75. Good handyweight lambs \$20 to \$21 off trucks and \$21 to \$22 off cars.

CALGARY STOCKYARDS, Dec. 14th. — Good butcher steers, heifers and cows are fully steady, common to fair quality under pressure. There is a good demand for all classes of stockers and feeders; hogs are weaker, sheep steady to strong. Grade A hogs are \$26.75, sows \$12.50 liveweight; good lambs \$21.50 to \$22.50; ewes \$8 to \$9. Good to choice butcher steers are \$21 to \$22.50; common to medium \$17 to \$20.50; good to choice butcher heifers \$19 to \$20, common to medium \$15 to \$18.50; good cows \$13.75 to \$14.50, common to medium \$12.50 to \$13.50, canners and cutters \$9 to \$12; good bulls \$15 to \$16, common to medium \$12 to \$14; good to choice veal calves \$18 to \$20, common to medium \$15 to \$17.50; good stocker and feeder steers \$17.50 to \$19, common to medium \$14 to \$17.

The Dairy Market

There has been no change in dairy prices. Special butterfat, locally, is 62 cents, No. 1 is 60 cents, No. 2 is 44 and off grade 39. First grade prints are 61 cents, second grade 58 and third grade 52 cents. Solids are 59% cents at Vancouver.

F.U.A. CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 1)

the greatly increased membership that is to be desired, was evidenced in the strength of the delegation. Inclusive of delegates and officers who have full Convention privileges, the total was 602 — a very gratifying representation. Large numbers of visitors swelled the audience which attended the discussions. On the last official day the attendance was not appreciably less than on the first; and a substantial number of delegates stayed an extra day to deal with resolutions. The recording of many of the Convention decisions must await our next issue.

President Re-elected

President Stimpfle was re-elected President of the Association for the coming year. Rudolph Hennig, in allowing his name to go on the ballot, said the decision to do so had been a difficult one. His relations with Mr. Stimpfle in dealing with Union affairs, and in every respect, had been completely happy. He had never received better consideration than he had in this organization. His policy would be "to work for the good of the farmers consistently with the good of the country." He believed it necessary to work for a strong A.F.A. and C.F.A.: to uphold freedom of thought and speech, and he wanted no part in a witch hunt.

Others who were nominated, but withdrew, were Henry Young, Millet; Louis Normandeau, Winterburn; A. B. Wood, Dewberry; Earl Wright, Paxson; L. E. Pharis, Magrath; Ray Garneau, Wainwright; R. N. Russell, Athabasca; J. L. McMillan, Edmonton; M. H. Ward, Arrowwood; F. E. Maricle, Hamlin; George E. Church, Balzac.

Mr. Young was subsequently elected Vice-President, and Messrs. Wood, Hennig and Orrin Hart of Claresholm were elected Executive Committee-men.

Request to Councils

The Convention adopted by a close majority a resolution requesting muni-

Borrowings From Farm Loan Board Up 42 P.C.

Canadian farmers borrowed \$4,919,300 from the Canadian Farm Loan Board during the year ended March 31st last, according to reports just made public. This was 42 per cent higher than the figure for the previous year, and the largest for twelve years. Some 96 per cent of first mortgage borrowers had no interest arrears at the close of the year. Over one-third of the borrowings were for purchase of farms or additional farm lands.

Local councils to join with the F.U.A. in seeking legislation making it mandatory upon all councils to collect membership fees for the Union from resident farmers; provision being made for such farmers to withdraw, if they wished, at a specified time each year, such withdrawal to be good for the current year only. Reimbursement of councils for extra clerical work caused by these collections was stipulated in the resolution.

Farmers Affected by Oil Development

The plight of farmers who find their farming operations hampered and their assets decreased in value as a result of oil development commanded full consideration by delegates. It was recognized that "oil development could not be hampered," but speakers during the debate, when a resolution, a substitute motion and a series of amendments were put forward, recognized also that many farmers suffered serious inconvenience and loss when both farming and oil drilling or oil production were being carried on at the same time and the same place.

The main resolution adopted embodied the chief recommendations of the A.F.A. brief, with additions. It originated in Districts 8, 9 and 10, and was also sponsored by several Locals.

As amended, it calls for "more adequate compensation to farmers who have oil wells drilled on their land; such compensation to cover not only property damage but also general depreciation and loss of social and community values." It suggests an alternative plan for farmers in areas where oil is actually discovered, giving the option of surrendering their land to the oil companies for cash settlement at the highest market value, or a 5 per cent royalty with adequate compensation to those affected by pipe lines and other real damage.

Would Declare Industrial Area

The Provincial Government was urged to declare an industrial area to include farms within three miles from a producing well, 5 per cent of royalties in that area to be set aside and distributed to land holders in the area as compensation.

It was also asked that the arbitration board should settle the amount payable to the farmer before the oil company gains access to his land; and that the company should take the entire holdings of a farmer if he wishes to sell all his land.

With decisions on many Provincial and national issues, many having a crucial bearing upon the future well-being of the farm people of the Dominion, we shall deal in our next issue.

Chosen as assistant chairmen were Henry Young and Andrew Wood, to whom President Stimpfle deputed the greater part of the chairmanship during the Convention.

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Discuss Program for Co-operatives

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. — A meeting of Newfoundland co-operators was called recently by the Department of Fisheries and Co-operation, to discuss an adequate educational program, development of marketing facilities (particularly for fish), Provincial and interprovincial wholesaling, facilities for co-operative credit and finance, and employer-employee relationships in the co-op field. Dr. M. M. Coady, of Nova Scotia, was one of the principal speakers.

FARM WOMEN'S UNION (Continued from Page 10)

quest for an X-ray for tuberculosis be taken before a marriage license is issued, for testing of all hospitalized patients for venereal disease, for tightening up of sanitary regulations in restaurants. That a greater share of financial aid be borne by the Dominion government in treating such crippling diseases as arthritis was also asked.

A resolution to dissolve the F.W.U.A. was dealt with while the assembly was in joint convention, and met with vigorous protest from many of the men. Mr. C. King of Breton said: "If you disband the F.W.U.A. this year, next year it will be the Juniors, and the next year you will be meeting to disband the F.U.A.!"

President Carl Stimpfle said: "You cannot estimate the value of the work accomplished by the women in this organization."

The resolution was defeated by a large majority.

More Joint Sessions

More time was given than usual to meeting in joint session, with the result that when Friday morning arrived a great deal of business had to be covered, but the ladies set to work diligently to catch up, which they did.

Dr. F. Morley brought "Morning Thoughts," which are greatly appreciated by the delegates. He concluded with these words: "Learn to develop a true sense of values, the greatest of which is making friends — it will bring peace, contentment, joy and sorrow, but most important of all, one who cares."

For the first time in a number of years, Miss Eileen Birch was present at the F.W.U.A. Convention in the capacity of secretary. She was presented with a corsage in appreciation of her services.

Excellent Reports by Directors

Excellent reports were given by the following Directors: Horticulture, Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite; International Affairs, Mrs. W. L. Barker; Education, Mrs. Russell Johnston; Social Welfare, Mrs. W. J. Cowan; Legislation, Mrs. C. T. Armstrong; Co-operation, Mrs. M. L. Roberts; Rural Housing, Mrs. H. Schroter; Health, Mrs. Flint.

It was a strenuous Convention, which you will appreciate when I tell you that one day when Mr. A. B. Wood was holding up the usual assortment of lost gloves, scarves, etc., he read out the following: "Fifteen pounds in weight, lost by one lady since coming to the Convention. Reward for recovery of same."

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FARM HOME & GARDEN

Other Farm Women's Features on
Pages 10 and 11.

Creole Sandwiches: Cream 1 cup butter, add 3 four-ounce cans of sardines, finely mashed, ½ cup tomato ketchup, 3 tbs. lemon juice, and 2 dozen stuffed olives, chopped. Spread on thin slices of white or whole wheat bread. Makes about 50 sandwiches.

Yule Spice Cakes: Grease four oblong bread pans, and line with waxed paper. Cream together 4 cups sugar, 2 cups butter, 2 cups lard, 1 tsp. nutmeg, grated rind and juice of one lemon; measure 14 cups flour; use some to dredge fruit—4 cups each currants and raisins and ¾ cup shredded peel; sift rest of flour with 8 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. salt; beat 8 large or 12 small eggs; combine first mixture with eggs, 2 cups milk, and flour; lastly add floured fruit. Pour into pans, and decorate tops of loaves with blanched almonds, candied cherries; cover with sheet of paper and bake about an hour and a half in slow oven.

Kedgerree: Boil ¼ lb. rice, and drain well; add ½ lb. cooked fish, flaked, 1 tsp. chopped parsley, salt and pepper to taste, 1 hard-boiled egg, chopped, and 3 tbs. melted fat; heat in top of double boiler.

Applesauce Cake: Requires only 1 egg. Cream 1/3 cup shortening with 1 small cup sugar, and beat in the 1 egg; add 1 cup raisins and ½ cup currants, dusted with flour. Sifted 1½ cups pastry flour with ¼ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. soda, 1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ tsp. each cloves and mace, ½ tsp. baking powder. Add to first mixture alternately with 1 cup applesauce. Bake in loaf pan 50 to 60 minutes.

The School Lunch: Should include something hot, dieticians insist; if no hot food is provided at school, the lunch should include a thermos of hot cocoa or hot soup; there should be nourishing sandwiches, fresh or cooked fruit, and some cake or cookies.

Apple Hotcakes: Served with little pork sausages, fried, these are delicious for breakfast, lunch or supper. Make a batter of 2 cups flour, 3 tsp. baking powder, ½ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. sugar, 1 egg, 1 1/3 cups milk and 1 tbs. melted shortening; add 1 cup chopped raw apple.

The lowest tuberculosis death rate ever recorded in Canada was 37.1 per 100,000, in 1948. The highest rate was in Quebec, with 58.4 per 100,000, and the lowest in Ontario, with 19.2. Saskatchewan was second lowest, with 26.8, and Alberta third, with 30.6.

Season's Greetings

The Delegates, Directors and Management of the Alberta Wheat Pool desire to express to Pool members and patrons of Alberta Pool Elevators their sincere appreciation for the substantial support accorded during the past year.

The Alberta Wheat Pool and Pool Elevators are growing in importance and influence with each passing year, thanks to the trust reposed in this farmer-owned co-operative by so many grain producers.

The co-operative movement is steadily moving forward towards the objective of creating a better and happier world. It is seeking through the operation of co-operative organizations to introduce the Golden Rule into the business life of the province.

As Christmastime approaches and the year 1949 gradually comes to a close, best wishes are extended for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alberta Wheat Pool

THE COMMON COLD

The best protection against catching colds is to maintain general fitness. The Health League of Canada recommends, as general precautionary measures, eating of well-balanced meals (including milk and fats, green vegetables, fruits, meats and other proteins); getting plenty of rest; keeping rooms well ventilated, and wearing clothing suitable to the weather. "Take no chances of overheating or chilling the body," they say. The hands should be washed often, especially before eating; if there are people with colds in the house, their dishes should be sterilized, and unnecessary contacts avoided.

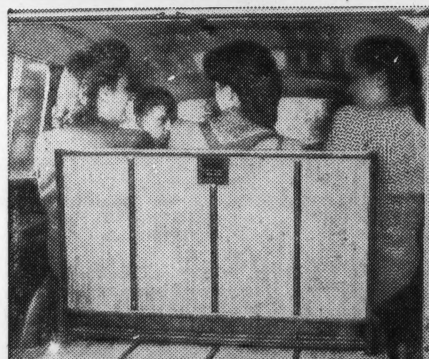
If you have a cold, they advise staying at home to protect others as well

as yourself, and covering coughs and sneezes; resting in bed; eating of simple food with plenty of liquids; destroying of used tissue handkerchiefs. Should fever, body-aches or weakness occur, or if there is coughing of mucous from the chest, you should consult a doctor; and in any case, don't return to your usual work too soon.

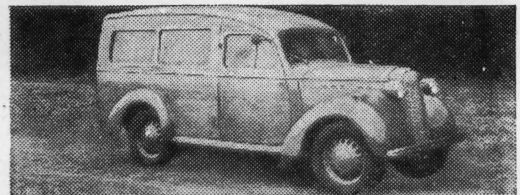
KILLER OF HUNDREDS

Carbon monoxide kills hundreds of Canadians each year in cars, garages and homes, warns the Department of National Health and Welfare, urging the utmost care in guarding against faulty flues, stoves, chimneys, and closed automobiles.

Truck Changes Into Station Wagon In 30 Seconds



FROM BUSINESS TO PLEASURE, or pleasure to business, is a 30-second task for a new all-purpose vehicle in which three automobile manufacturers and a body builder have joined forces in Britain. Named the Utilicon, as a station wagon it seats seven in three rows. The half-minute change is accomplished by folding the back two rows of seats into the floor. Independent folding of the rows allows the number of passengers and the amount of freight to be varied. Pictured are the vehicle and its roles: top left, a station wagon; bottom right, a truck.



Program Has Great Value

The Junior Farm Club program provides an important supplement to the formal education provided in our schools, declares D. M. McLean, M.Sc., in a recent bulletin of Line Elevators' Farm Service. By studying and demonstrating approved practices in agriculture and home-making, Mr. McLean points out, club members have helped to raise the standard of farm production and to improve living conditions. And this is by no means the only measure of success; from the beginning, this youth program has sought to develop in the members greater appreciation of good citizenship. Mr. McLean pays tribute to the devoted service of hundreds of voluntary adult leaders who have been the great driving force behind the movement.

Not Yet Ruined By Taxes

U.S. corporations are not yet ruined by high taxes, it is revealed by a report on the current assets and liabilities of all American corporations, issued by the National City Bank of New York. In 1939, the report shows, the corporations had an average of \$1.82 in current assets for every dollar of current liabilities; in 1948 they had \$1.82 of assets for every dollar of liabilities; while this year they have \$2.18 in assets for every dollar of liabilities.

The world's largest and heaviest helicopter is the British Cierva Air Horse. At recent flight trials it plied at an all-up weight of 17,500 lbs., the world's record lift for rotating powered aircraft.

MUSTARD AND CRESS

By SYDNEY MAY

Hello Folks!

We hear that the half dozen regular readers which this column has will be very busy all week packing parcels with the goodies that they are NOT going to send us.

However, Knotty Frankie has already presented us with a corkscrew and Li'l Goldilocks, our office vamp, has given us a plastic bottle opener. But we dunno why!

As for ourselves, we can only wish everybody all the best, so let us:

Heap on the wood though winds
are chill
We'll let 'em whistle as they will,
And keep our Christmas merry
still.

Oh yes, we forgot to mention that we have a big fat rooster strutting around outside, but lately he has been looking at us with a very sad and suspicious eye. He doesn't know it, but he's quite safe, having already seen two Christmases without the axe falling.

We see by the papers that City Health Director J. C. Geiger has asserted that it is not sanitary to kiss the "Blarney Stone", and has stirred up a bit of a tempest among the San Francisco Irish. Since this sacred stone has been kissed ever since the year 1466, we can only regard this

statement as a lot of blarney or maybe just another injustice to Ireland.

Committee to Sell Citizenship—
headline in the Calgary Herald.
Oh, hum, and we thought Canadian citizenship was priceless.

This being the festive season W.H.A. of Vancouver, a seaside village west of here, evidently thinks we need some stuffing for our Christmas dinner and has sent us along this fine dressing:

A DRESSING (DOWN) FOR
MUSTARD AND CRESS

Sydney! why so sentimental?
Where thy merry jest?
Is this just experimental
Our staying power to test?

Is thy piquant "Salad" column
Heading altruistic?
Dost intend to make it solemn,
Cryptical and mystic?

Why hath thy brilliant "Brain
Trust" waned,
And very scant appearing?
Leaving us un-entertained,
Sans wit, sans smile, sans cheer-
ing!

Where is Goldilocks in hiding?
Where the Crow's Bad Egg?
Where is Wally Bach abiding?
Hath Knottie drained the keg?

Hath "Tempus fugit" got thee
down
With "Anno Domini"?
Hath Inspiration "done thee
brown"
As years go whizzing by?

We seek, but seek it all in vain;
We ask from day to day,
Oh! who will bring it back again?
God knows! but Sydney May!

Come, Sydney, fill the erstwhile
bowl
And let us quaff its nectar.
Nor heed the groaning graveyard
ghoul,
To hell with sighing spectre.
—W.H.A., Vancouver.

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH

Postcard from Knottie Frankie says that once upon a time, after a war, they used to beat swords into plowshares, but nowadays they simply beat tanks into preference shares.

In recording the birth of twins to Mrs. Grant Van Eaton of Tees, the Calgary Albertan says: "The twins were born on the same day as their nine-year-old brother, Gordon." All we can say, it was a clever trick if she did it.

This being the last appearance of Mustard and Cress for the year 1949, we wish to take this opportunity of thanking Wally Barabash; Knotty Frankie; Barney Milstein, Calgary; Mrs. M. A. Paterson, Edmonton; Sophie Kravchenko, Kavanagh; G.R., Castor; W.H.A., Vancouver; Eve Peiffer; Mrs. W., Chinook; Robert T. Anderson, Edmonton; and many others whose contributions have been of so much help in enabling us to get out this column regularly. We trust that they will continue to favor us through the coming year, for which we shall be eternally grateful.

Says Bob Slym, just because Barney Milstein has gone on a diet is no reason for him to start throwing his light-weight around.

News item says that a wine drinking drive is planned in Britain. That's the right spirit for this time of the year.

But what becomes of that good old British slogan: "Beer Is Best"?

HER ELUSIVE HERO

I think he's exceedingly clever
And handsome, as handsome
can be,
Tho' I smile at him o'fen, he never
Decides on going with me.

I'm unable to think of the answer,
He isn't the type that is shy:
For he's really an excellent dancer
And continually gives me the
"eye".

Perhaps he's the type that is fickle,
Just loves to play with one's
heart:
My dad says he's not worth a
nickel,
And 'tis better if we stay apart.

But oh, even so I'd be ready
To embrace him as other girls
do,
And to go with 'im, go with 'im
steady—
Would be a wonderful dream
come true.

—G.R., Castor, Alta.

It's too bad that Montreal footballers will have to drink their toasts out of a grey cup. However, judging by what we saw of the Stampedeers on their return to Calgary, the boys will still be able to sing "Alouette" quite cheerfully without any cup to drink from.

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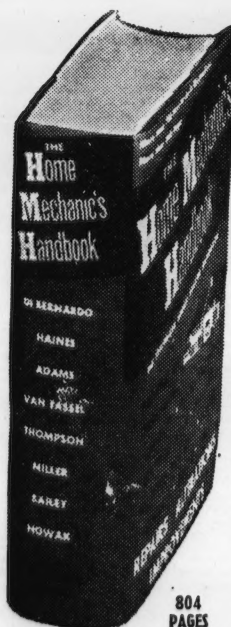
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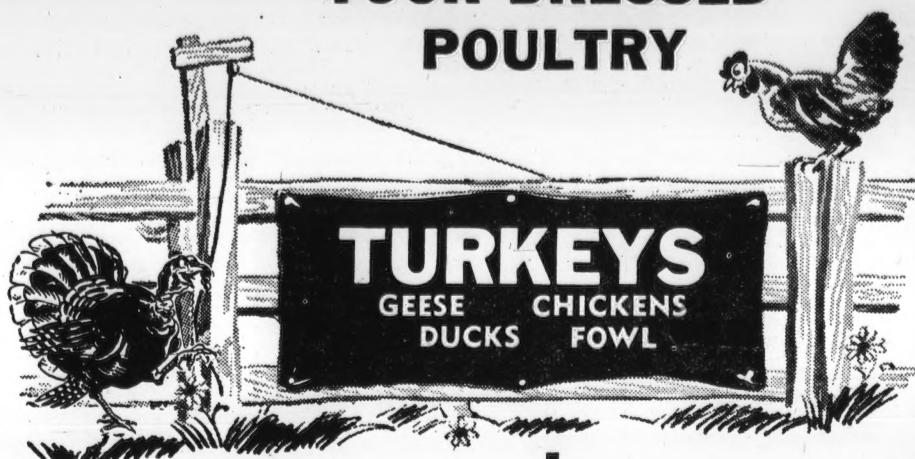
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